

**Learn Local's contribution to hard
to reach learners and language and
literacy**

VALBEC Conference – 25 May 2012

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1. Context of the Sector – where ACFE fits

2. How ACFE assists hard-to-reach learners

3. Successful interventions: Language, Literacy and Numeracy

ACFE overview

- Around 95,000 students each year
- 8,000 staff , plus volunteers , right across the state
- About 310 not-for-profit Learn Local adult community education (ACE) organisations
- 21 years legislated function to support the sector
- ACFE Board: 12 members
- 8 Regional Offices that support 8 Regional Councils and Learn Local organisations
- 2 Adult Education Institutions – CAE and AMES



Learn Local Delivery 2011 (all funding sources)

- Over 13 million student contact hours
- Around 87,000 enrolments
- Students: 65,500 in VET; 32,000 in enrichment
- 'Hard to Reach' indicators – student numbers up in 6/8 categories
- Learn Local organisations delivered 12 per cent of government funded enrolments in 2011.

Types of training subsidised by government

Pre-accredited training

- Quality assured by ACFE Board
- Increase confidence and skills
- Programs of at least 20 hours
- Pathways to further education and employment
- 12% of Learn Local delivery (hours) in this form of training; funding is capped

Accredited training

- A range of courses offered under the Victorian Training Guarantee
- Around 88% of Learn Local delivery (hours) in accredited training; funding is entitlement based

Learn Local accredited and pre-accredited enrolments and student contact hours

2008-2011

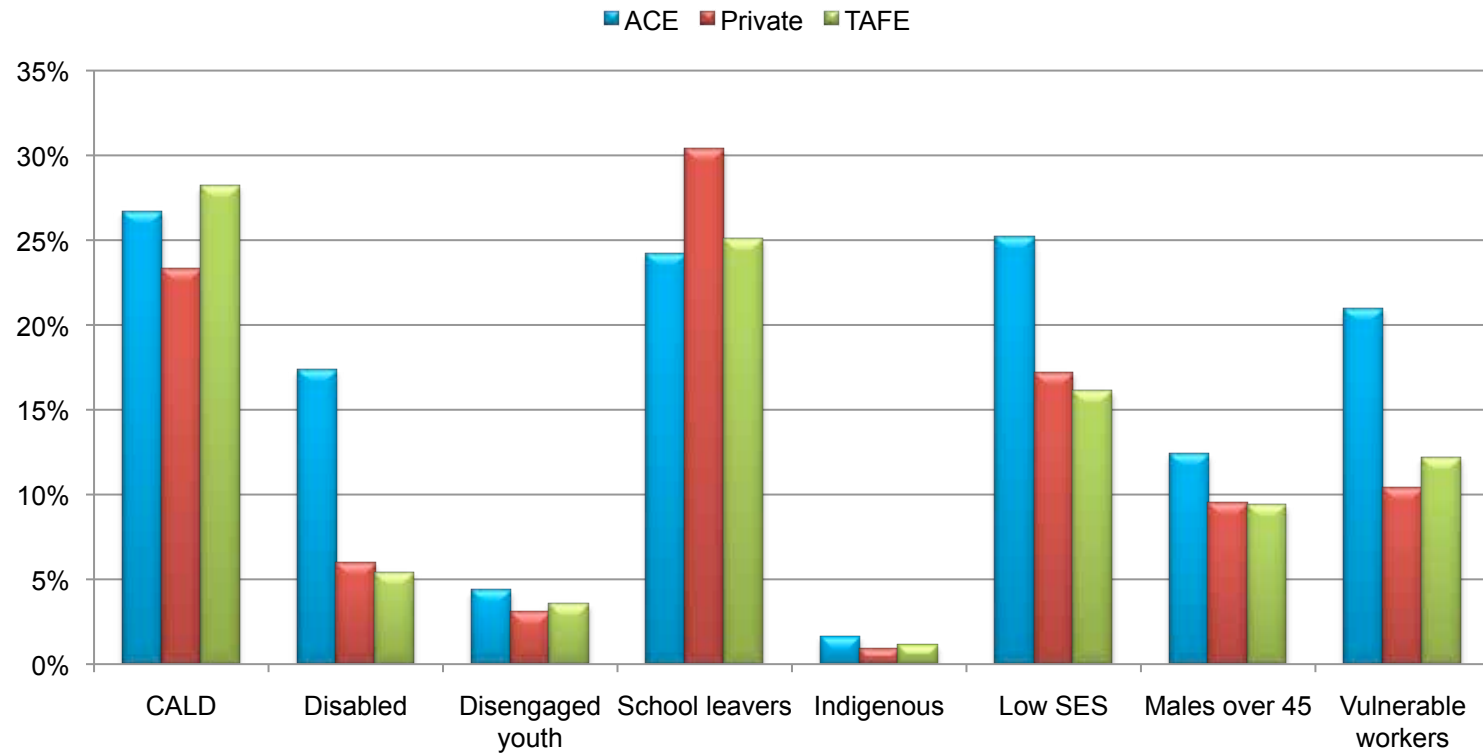


Accredited

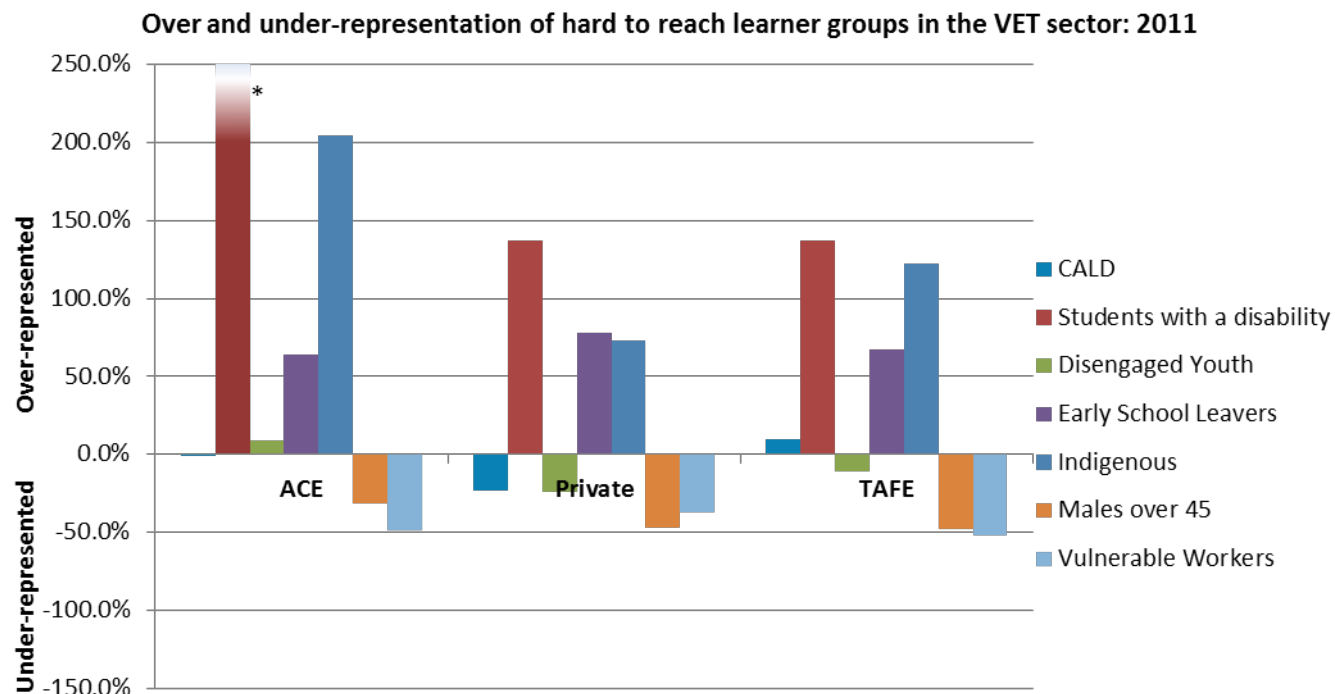
Pre-accredited

Hard to reach learner profile

Hard to Reach Learner Profile: 2011



Hard to reach learner profile: how it represents the Victorian population proportionally



* Students with a disability - ACE: 609% over-represented

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Pre-accredited training

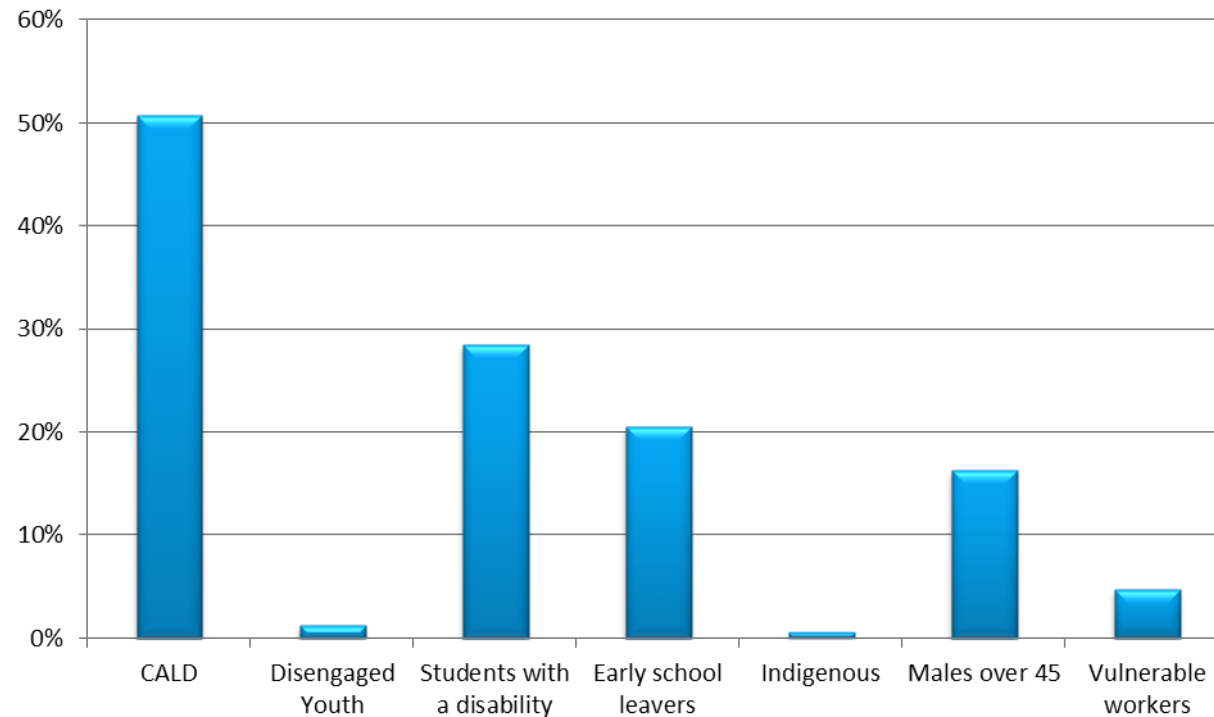


A Framework for Continuous Quality Improvement

- The A-Frame
- Moderation
- Validation and Audit

Which hard to reach learners are studying literacy and numeracy pre-accredited?

% of students in literacy and numeracy modules from a hard to reach background, pre-accredited, Govt funded, ACE, 2011

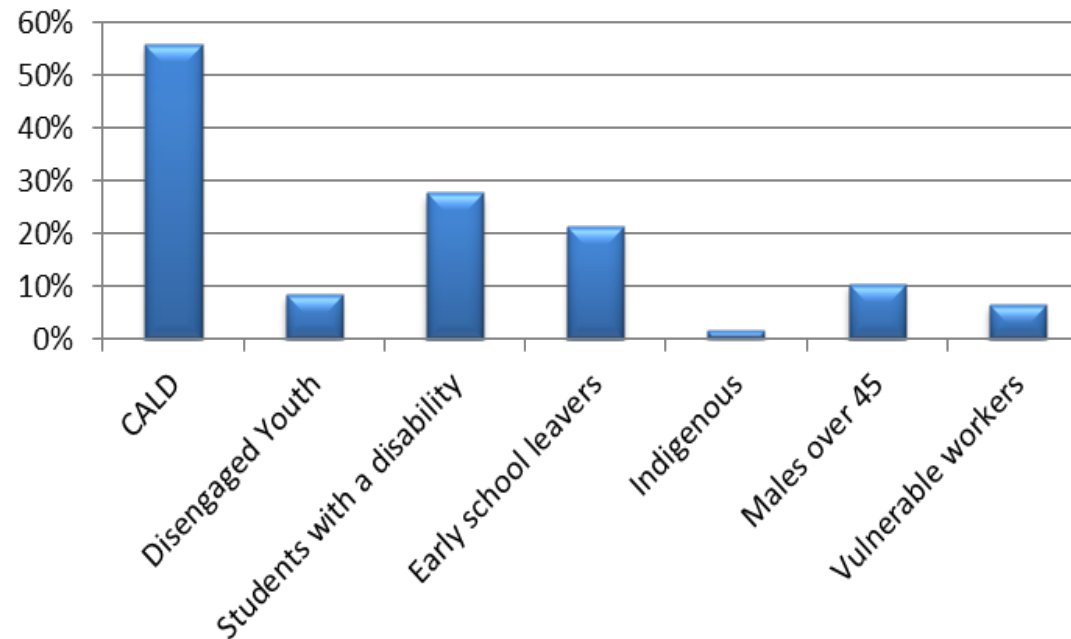


Assisting hard to reach learners through accredited raining

- Certificates in General Education for Adults (CGEA)
- Certificates in Informal Learning (CAIL and RIL)
- International Computer Driver's Licence (ICDL)

Hard to reach students studying literacy modules within accredited training

% of students in literacy and numeracy modules from a hard to reach background, accredited, Govt funded, ACE, 2011



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ACFE Capacity Initiative CALD Project 2008 - 2012

- Led by AMES to build capacity of the Learn Local sector to work with CALD learners
- Research, training in CALD provision plus 8 action learning projects
- Focus on new and emerging CALD communities
- Concluding with showcase on 15 June 2012

Successful Collaborations with VALBEC

- Since 2010 Participatory Action Research project – completion 2011
- Collaborative work exploring benefits of working together with other Peak bodies for the benefit of the learner.
- Publications:
 - A Fuller Sense of Self
 - Fine Print

ACFE Board Flagship Project: literacy and numeracy

- Implementation beginning later in 2012
- Focus on literacy and numeracy needs of low-skilled workers
- Support for Learn Local organisations to deliver in workplace
- Improved capacity for Learn Local organisations to form partnerships with industry and business



The need to do more about literacy and numeracy

- Based on strong evidence of need
- Recent research shows that 50% of Australians aged 15 -74 lack literacy and numeracy skills required for life and work
- Practitioners need support also
- Supply of adult language, literacy and numeracy teachers insufficient to meet training needs nationally

Thank you

Questions?

